Pres.t Stiles
Diary &c
1780.

The Church of Christ in Southington to
the Rev Ezra Stiles D.D. Pres. of Yale College –
sendeth Greeting –

It having pleased God in his Providence to unite the hearts of this church in the choice of Mr William Robinson for our Gospel Minister this is to desire your presence on the 12th day of Jan.y next to assist in setting him apart to that important work according to the directions of the Gospel –

Wishing that Grace Mercy & Peace may be multiplied unto you – we subscribe ourselves in the name & at the request of the Church

Your brethren in the Lord.

Josiah Cowles
Southington — Com- — Timothy Clark
Dec 20. 1779 — mit- — Aaron Webster
tee — John Curtis

N.B. The council is desired to meet at 12 o'clock the preceding day at the house of Mr Jonathan Root a little north of the Meeting House –

(direction) Rev Ezra Stiles D.D.
Pres. Yale Col.

(Indorsed) – Thursday Jan 13. 1780. The Rev Wm Robinson was ordained by the laying on of the hands of Rev. Messrs Newel, Pitkin – Foot, Gillett, Stiles – Mr Upson made first

prayer. I preached from 1 Tim. III. 14–16
Mr Foot prayed the ordaining prayer – Mr Newel gave the charge – Mr Pitkin made the concluding prayer & Mr Foot gave the Right hand of Fellowship –

Ezra Stiles –

Diary –

1780. Jany 12. This was to have been the day of ordination according to the letters missive which I received from the Church of Southington – But through the severity of the day & high winds, blowing the snow & filling up the Paths, only two Churches & three Ministers were convened to day & it was deferred till tomorrow. This afternoon we however formed, & examined Mr Robinson the Pastor Elect, & the Church Comittee laid before us their Transactions & votes respecting his call. In the evening Mr Newel arrived having been all day in coming seven miles & 40 men employed in opening the Ways. Next day arrived Mr Pitkin & Mr Gillet, the latter came part of the way on Snow Shoes. The council this evening allotted the parts & voted to proceed to ordination to Morrow.

13. This day the ordination of the Revd Wm Robinson late Senior Tutor of Yale College was attended by a very large congregation

assembled on this occasion.

Extract of Result

"At a Meeting of an Ecclesiastical Council of Elders & Delegates of the Churches of Christ convened at Southington Jany 12, 1780

Elders present Rev Messrs
Dr Stiles Pres. of Yale College
Samuel Newel Pastor of the church in N. Cambridge
Timothy Pitkin Pastor of the Church in Farmington
John Foot Pastor of the church in N. Cheshire
Alex. Gillett Pastor of the church in Farmingbury
Benoni Upson Pastor of church in Kensington

Delegates present
Deac Stephen Hotchkiss from church in N. Cambridge
Deac Seth Lee from church in Farmington
Deac Samuel Beach from chh. in N. Cheshire
Brig General Seth Hart from the church in Kensington

Dr Stiles was chosen Moderator Mr Foot & Gen Hart were chosen scribes —

Mr Upson made the first prayer, then I preached on 1. Tim IV. 14-16 — Mr Foot made the ordaining prayer during the Imposition of the

n1c

hands of the Presbytery. Mr Newel gave the Charge. Mr Pitkin made the concluding prayer & Mr Foot gave the right hand of Fellowship. These with Mr Gillet laid on hands. Hands not laid on during the charge according to custom lately in some of the consociations, though this Council was not a consociated Council, but one elected at large — Three psalms were sung in Dr Watts' version. I was two hours in sermon. We began about Eleven & finished at three o'clock — nearly 4 hours in service. A very decent crowded & attentive Auditory. The whole was performed with a serious solemnity. The Council dined at Mr Root's. After dinner, as Moderator, I concluded as I had begun the Council, with Prayer, & dissolved it —

14 — very blustering. Visited the venerable Sage the Rev Mr Curtis Æt 80 & upw., the first Pastor of the church in Southington who resigned the Miny about 20 yrs ago — who attended the Ordination with entire satisfaction & dined with the Council: visited also Rev Mr Chapman dismissed 5 or 6 years since from the pastoral charge of the church —

16 Lds. Dy. I preached all day for Mr Robinson A.M. Rom V. 21st. P.M. 1 Thess II 19.20. After sermon Mr Robinson performed a baptism

18. Returned to New Haven — snow very deep —